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UNH Provost Announces Whittemore School Dean Appointment

By [Kim Billings](#)
UNH News Bureau

DURHAM, N.H. -- Steve Bolander, chairperson of the Department of Management at Colorado State University, has been named dean of the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at the University of New Hampshire. David Hiley, UNH provost and vice president for academic affairs, made the announcement today. UNH President Joan Leitzel will request trustee approval at the May meeting. Bolander begins his duties July 1.

"I am very pleased that Steve Bolander will join the university as dean of the Whittemore School," said Hiley. "He brings to UNH an impressive record of teaching and research, as well as significant administrative experience. He has been especially successful in leading the integration of technology in business education and in bringing business and industry together around emerging technologies. That experience will be especially important for the needs of our students and thriving technology-driven economy of the Seacoast and beyond."

"I look forward to joining the Whittemore School of Business and Economics," Bolander said. "The opportunity to work with an outstanding faculty at a superb and supportive university represents both a great opportunity and a wonderful challenge. I also look forward to developing strong working relationships between the Whittemore School and the state and regional business communities and beyond."

Bolander has extensive experience in developing undergraduate and graduate program curricula, as well as in the development of new degree programs and the creation of research centers on the CSU campus. He also has played an active role in fundraising for the department and the college.

"Steve Bolander will provide the strong leadership needed to move the Whittemore School of Business and Economics forward to realize its full potential," said Jonathan Gutman, professor of marketing and co-chair of the search committee. "He has his priorities straight about the resources and effort required if we are to accomplish our goals."

Prior to his four-year tenure as department chair, Bolander was for two years interim dean of the College of Business at CSU. While he was interim dean, Bolander led the restructuring of the college's distance education program; it was so successful that it has become one of the top distance education MBA programs in the country, with 500 students enrolled from 50 states and 11 foreign countries.

He also led efforts to create interdisciplinary programs with other colleges, including an international program with liberal arts, a human resource management program with the College of Applied Human Sciences and a technology-based program with CSU's engineering college.

In addition, he led a \$4 million fundraising effort for a new technology and classroom wing, including a \$1 million gift from the Packard Foundation.

"This is exciting news for the Whittemore School and for the university," said UNH President Joan Leitzel. "Dr. Bolander has exceptional experience as an academic leader as well as a scholar. He will be instrumental in moving our business school forward, and will work closely with private business and industry."

Bolander has been chair of the management department at CSU since 1993, serving as interim dean from 1994 to 1996. Since 1995, he also has served as director of a research and educational consortium between industry and four colleges within CSU.

With the exception of the period from 1979 to 1981, Bolander has been a faculty member at CSU since 1972. From 1979 to 1981, he worked as a program manager for Rockwell International.

"Steve Bolander is a good fit for the Whittemore School

and for the business community in New Hampshire and the nation," said S. Melvin Rines, chair of the board of directors for the University of New Hampshire Foundation. "His experience in bringing high tech into the classroom and his interaction with more than 50 Fortune 500 companies through his research is impressive. When added to the school's highly professional faculty and strong reputation, the Whittemore School's future is bright indeed."

Bolander earned a B.S. in chemistry in 1966, from Iowa Wesleyan College; a master's degree in business administration in 1967, from the University of Colorado; and a Doctor of Business Administration in 1972, from Kent State University. His research is focused on planning and scheduling systems for process industries.

"With his vision, abilities and the strong support he has received from faculty, the future of the Whittemore School is very bright," according to Hiley.

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